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Summary record of the 42nd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 10 December 2002, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Suazo ..... (Honduras)

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02-73110 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.30 p.m.

Agenda item 84: Macroeconomic policy questions (*continued*) (A/C.2/57/L.4 and L.72)

(e) International financial system and development (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on the international financial system and development (A/C.2/57/L.4 and L.72)

1. **Mr. Benmellouk** (Morocco), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.72, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.4, and recommended its adoption.

2. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.72 was adopted.*

3. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.4 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 86: Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (*continued*) (A/C.2/57/L.12, L.13, L.49, L.63, L.65 and L.68)

Draft resolutions on the International Year of the Mountains (A/C.2/57/L.49 and L.65)

4. **The Chairman** announced that Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Georgia, Guatemala, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Yugoslavia had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.49.

5. **Mr. Kára** (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.65, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.49, and recommended its adoption.

6. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.65 was adopted.*

7. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.49 was withdrawn.*

(a) Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (A/C.2/57/L.12 and L.68)

8. **Mr. Kára** (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.68, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.12, and recommended its adoption.

9. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.68 was adopted.*

10. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.12 was withdrawn.*

(c) Culture and development (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on culture and development (A/C.2/57/L.13 and L.63)

11. **Mr. Kára** (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.63, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.13, and recommended its adoption.

12. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.63 was adopted.*

13. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.13 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 87: Environment and sustainable development (*continued*) (A/C.2/57/L.18, L.19, L.21, L.45, L.66, L.67, L.69 and L.71)

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (A/C.2/57/L.45 and L.71)

14. **Mr. Kára** (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.71, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.45.

15. **Mr. Carpio Govea** (Venezuela), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that, in the first line of the fourth preambular paragraph, the word "Johannesburg" should be inserted before the word "Plan".

16. **The Chairman** announced that Algeria, Belgium, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Gabon, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.45.

17. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.71, as orally revised, was adopted.*

18. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.45 was withdrawn.*

(b) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/C.2/57/L.21 and L.69)

19. **Mr. Kára** (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.69, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.21.

20. **Mr. Carpio Govea** (Venezuela), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that, in the fourth line of paragraph 5, the figure "2004" should be inserted before the word "review". The words "in 2004" in the penultimate line should be deleted.

21. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.69, as orally revised, was adopted.*

22. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.21 was withdrawn.*

(e) Convention on Biological Diversity (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/C.2/57/L.18 and L.67)

23. **Mr. Kára** (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.67, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.18.

24. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.67 was adopted.*

25. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.18 was withdrawn.*

26. **Mr. Gebert** (Denmark), speaking on behalf of the European Union and the associated countries Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, said that, in the view of the European Union, paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.67 and its footnote in no way implied that decision 23 taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its sixth session did not stand. Furthermore, the European Union agreed with the interpretation of consensus of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations contained in his letter dated 17 June 2002, and it accepted his conclusion that the decision might stand as adopted. In the view of the European Union, the provisions contained in paragraph 2 and its footnote were without prejudice to the agenda of the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. Lastly, the European Union considered the decision of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its sixth session as representing overall balanced packages. Those decisions would form the basis for further work on biological diversity. In particular, the European Union remained committed to the promotion of the wide implementation and further development of the ecosystem approach and would pursue it actively at the next Conference of the Parties.

27. **Mr. Traub** (United States of America) said that, while his delegation joined the consensus on the draft resolution, it wished to express a reservation on paragraph 8. Moreover, while the United States had joined the consensus on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, it had reserved its position with respect to paragraph 44 (o), which envisaged the negotiation "within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines, an international regime to promote and

safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources". During the final negotiations on that paragraph, the words "legally binding" just before the word "regime" had been deleted at the request of many delegations. It was therefore the understanding of the United States that the undertaking envisaged in that paragraph would not entail the development of a legally binding instrument. His delegation further considered that the paragraph constituted an invitation for States to explore non-binding tools to better implement the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Bonn Guidelines adopted in April 2002. Any initiatives in that area must fully accord access to genetic resources and respect rights and obligations under international law.

28. **Mr. O'Brien** (Australia), speaking in explanation of his delegation's position in relation to paragraph 8 of the draft resolution, said that at the time of adoption of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, Australia had delivered an interpretative statement relating, inter alia, to paragraph 44 (o) of the Plan (A/CONF.199/20, chap. IX, para. 7). It was on that same basis that his delegation joined the consensus on paragraph 8 of the current resolution. As to paragraph 2 of the resolution and its footnote, his delegation had delivered a statement under that item at an earlier meeting of the Second Committee and continued to maintain the same view. Australia looked forward to resolving the issue at the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

(f) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (A/C.2/57/L.19 and L.66)

29. **Mr. Kára** (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.66, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.19, and recommended its adoption.

30. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.66 was adopted.*

31. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.19 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 92: Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields (*continued*)

(A/C.2/57/L.28 and L.70)

Draft resolutions on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields (A/C.2/57/L.28 and L.70)

32. **The Chairman** introduced draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.70, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.28.

33. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.70 was adopted.*

34. *Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.28 was withdrawn.*

Announcements concerning sponsorship of draft resolutions

35. **The Chairman** announced that Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Chile, Czech Republic, Gabon, Hungary, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritius, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia and Slovenia had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.33 submitted under agenda item 92 and that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.47 submitted under agenda item 87 (c).

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.